

Message Text

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PAGE 01 IAEA V 05123 131646Z

43

ACTION IO-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG OCON IAEA PARM TECH

SUBJECT: JUNE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING, AGENDA ITEM 17:

ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP FOR PNE

PASS NRC

REF: IAEA VIENNA 4856

SUMMARY: ON JUNE 11 BOARD APPROVED RESOLUTION CONTAINED IN GOV/1750, WITH MINOR LAST-MINUTE AMENDMENT, ESTABLISHING AN "AD HOC" ADVISORY GROUP ON PNE". DISCUSSION WHICH WAS NOT PROLONGED, AT NO POINT ADDRESSED GROUP'S TERMS OF REFERENCE, WHICH WAS FOCAL POINT OF CONTENTION AT FEBRUARY BOARD, NOR WERE ANY VIEWS EXPRESSED IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSAL. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING INTRODUCTION OF GOV/1750 BY AUSTRIAN DELEGATE (WILSON), REPS OF OTHER CO-SPONSORS (U.K. THAILAND, JAPAN, FRG) DELIVERED SIMILAR STATEMENTS STRESSING MANDATE GIVEN TO AGENCY IN PNE MATTERS BY NPT REVCON AND CHARGES BY SOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT LITTLE HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED TO FULFILL PROVISIONS ART. V OF NPT. AUSTRALIAN REP POINTED OUT THAT PURPOSE

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PAGE 02 IAEA V 05123 131646Z

OF GROUP WOULD BE ADVISORY ONLY AND THAT GROUP WOULD NOT

BE OF PERMANENT NATURE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT WHILE MANY YEARS WOULD PASS BEFORE AN ASSESSMENT COULD BE MADE OF POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF PNE, THERE WAS NO NEED TO DELAY A SERIOUS STUDY OF THE SUBJECT. U.K. REP (JACKSON) INTRODUCED SEVERAL WORDING CHANGES IN TEXT INSISTED UPON BY SOVIETS IN LAST MINUTE CONSULTATIONS. (COMMENT: IN MISSION'S VIEW, CHANGES FURTHER IMPROVE TEXT. WILL TRANSMIT FINAL TEXT VIA SEPTTEL). END COMMENT.

2. BRIEF SUPPORTING STATEMENTS WERE DELIVERED BY REPS OF U.S., CANADA, INDIA, AND PAKISTAN. U.S. REP (TAPE) OBSERVED THAT PRESENT TEXT REFLECTED CONSIDERABLE EFFORT BY SPONSORS TO RESOLVE QUESTIONS RAISED IN FEBRUARY AND TOOK INTO ACCOUNT VIEWS OF PARTICIPANTS IN NPT REVCON. CANADIAN AND INDIAN REPS EXPRESSED SERIOUS DOUBT THAT ADVISORY GROUP WOULD BE ABLE RENDER A FINAL REPORT IN 18 MONTHS, AS CALLED FOR IN RESOLUTION. INDIAN AND PAKISTANI REPS NOTED FOR RECORD THEIR GOVERNMENTS' VIEWS THAT AGENCY'S PNE ACTIVITY NOT FOUNDED ON NPT BUT ON IAEA STATUTE. BOTH ALSO EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ON POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN GROUP OF STATES PARTY TO NPT, BUT NOT MEMBERS OF AGENCY (REFTEL, PARA 2(C)), WITH PAKISTAN GOVERNOR (KHAN) RESERVING RIGHT TO RAISE MATTER AGAIN WITHIN ADVISORY GROUP WHEN QUESTION OF INVITATIONS TO SUCH STATES IS CONSIDERED.

3. SOVIETS POSITION ON DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS UNCLEAR UNTIL LAST MINUTE. FIRST INDICATION OF TROUBLE WAS SOVIET OPPOSITION TO AUSTRALIA'S PROPOSAL, AT OPENING OF BOARD MEETING, TO CONSIDER ITEM EARLIER IN THE AGENDA. CHANGES INTRODUCED BY JACKSON APPARENTLY MET SOVIET OBJECTION. SOVIETS DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION EXCEPT TO NOTE CURIOUSLY AT CONCLUSION OF DEBATE THAT RECORD SHOULD REFLECT APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL HAD BEEN DECIDED BY CONSENSUS.TAPE

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